



# Australian Community Futures Planning

## Questions about *Australia Together*

Does the Vision for *Australia Together* reflect what Australians have said they value and want?

### What's in this fact sheet?

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Read the latest draft of *Australia Together*

<https://www.austcfp.com.au/australia-together>

Further questions may be forwarded to ACFP at [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au)  
Become involved in building a plan for a better Australia at the ACFP: [www.austcfp.com.au](http://www.austcfp.com.au)

## What is the Vision for *Australia Together*?

The Vision for *Australia Together* sets out the aspirations of Australians for the future of their nation. It is a draft vision that has been assembled by ACFP by scanning the views of Australians on the best future they can imagine as those views have been expressed in various surveys and research programs over the last two decades. [Read the latest draft of the Vision for \*Australia Together\* here.](#)

The draft Vision has been assembled to enable ACFP to run trials of a process for development of Australia's first National Community Futures Plan – we've called that plan [Australia Together](#). The planning process on trial is called [National Integrated Planning & Reporting](#). It is an inclusive planning process enabling any and all Australians to become involved in planning a better future for their country and presenting that plan to those they elect as a statement of their preferred destination as a nation and their preferred paths toward it.

In effect, the draft Vision for *Australia Together* and the National Integrated Planning & Reporting process devised by ACFP comprise an experimental program in which we are all able to ask a question that is fundamental to our quality of life and even to our survival. That question is:

**If the draft Vision for *Australia Together* is what Australians want for their future, what is the safest way to get there?**

ACFP's role in this process is to provide Australians with the tools they need to answer that question in an organised and efficient way. We are helping them design a plan to make the best future they can imagine in the 2020s into a reality by 2050 or sooner. One of the key tools we offer for that purpose is the [Australia Together National Wellbeing Index](#). This is a database of the factual information that we all need to be able to develop strategies which will make the Vision a reality without resulting in exclusion of diverse Australians or an increase in inequality.

However, in addition to helping Australians build plans charting the safest paths to their preferred future, ACFP also plays an important role in helping Australians to revise the Vision itself to ensure that it does actually reflect what Australians value and want for the future. In this regard ACFP's Founder Bronwyn Kelly published the findings of detailed research about Australian values in 2023 in her book, [The People's Constitution: the path to empowerment of Australians in a 21<sup>st</sup> century democracy](#). This research has enabled ACFP to analyse whether and how the Vision for *Australia Together* reflects what Australians value and want.

**This fact sheet provides an assessment of how the Vision for *Australia Together* is indeed aligned with and supports the values and aspirations of Australians for their future. The two go hand in hand. There is a full alignment between the Vision and what Australians value for themselves, their children and their nation as a whole. In summary, the draft Vision for *Australia Together* does reflect what we value and want for our future. It is the key to ensuring we can live our values and build the nation, country and future we want.**

The Vision for *Australia Together* is the result of ongoing drafting. It is subject to change as Australians and their circumstances change. Comments are always welcome on any changes that may be necessary. Surveys are always open [here](#).

Click [here](#) to comment on the Vision and Directions for *Australia Together*

<https://www.austcfp.com.au/survey-forms>

## The draft Vision for *Australia Together*

The Vision for *Australia Together* is comprised of:

- a high level one-page Vision statement (pictured at right) containing 17 statements about the aspirations that Australians have expressed for the quality of life they wish to be able to lead by 2050; and
- 57 Direction statements of the preferred and safe routes toward that Vision.

Read the full Vision and Directions [here](#). The 17 elements of the one-page Vision are as follows:

### **By 2050, we and our children and grandchildren will be living a fulfilling life in an Australia where:**

1. We are all safe
2. We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination
3. Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life
4. We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing
5. We act together as a compassionate society
6. Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress
7. Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society
8. Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice
9. Vital services are fully accessible for all
10. Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared
11. National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared
12. Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone
13. As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society
14. Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival
15. Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals
16. We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations
17. We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world



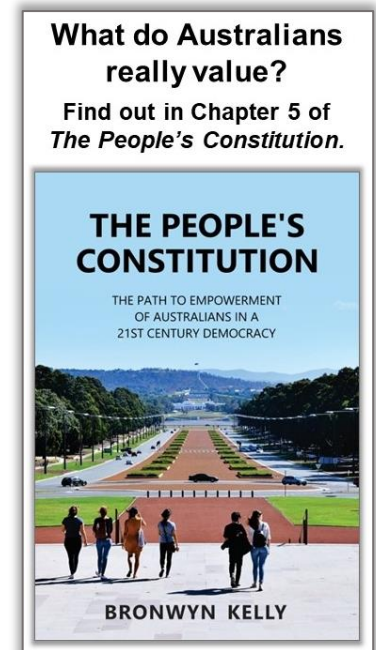
## What do Australians value?

In Chapter 5 of *The People's Constitution: the path to empowerment of Australians in a 21<sup>st</sup> century democracy*, author Bronwyn Kelly detailed the findings of research on what Australians have said they value and want for themselves and their nation whenever they have been asked about that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This enabled development of a draft **Statement of Australian Values**.

For purposes of assessing how well the Vision for *Australia Together* is aligned with and supports these values, an extract of the draft Statement of Australian Values is provided below.

### The draft Statement of Australian Values for insertion into Australia's Constitution

Extract from Chapter 5 of *The People's Constitution*.



#### **Statement of Australian Values (draft for community engagement)**

We the people of Australia are at one in this our Sovereign Will to chart a course to a future where **peace prevails and the common wellbeing is secured for all** in a manner consistent with the preeminent value we place on:

- the safety of all members of the nation and the stability, security and cohesion of society as a whole;
- honesty, integrity and ethics in all relationships, in governance and in corporate responsibility;
- creation and maintenance of a fully inclusive, participatory democracy which exhibits openness, transparency and respect for the voices of all Australians in matters of policy and governance;
- universal human rights;
- social harmony and appreciation of diversity;
- Australia's First Nations particularly in relation to:
  - our recognition of their rightful and essential place at the Heart of the nation's past, present and future,
  - truth-telling on the history of colonisation and the violence and injustice of their dispossession,
  - Makarrata, reconciliation with and just treaty between First Nations and non-Indigenous Australians,
  - celebration of the culture and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
  - our acknowledgement of their ancestral tie to the land and the sovereignty that arises from that as coexistent with the sovereignty of all Australians, and, consequent on that acknowledgement,
  - the equal right of First Nations alongside all Australians to their own Voice in the Constitution;

- equality and egalitarianism – in ensuring wellbeing and in respect for all regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, race, national or ethnic origin, cultural heritage, religious persuasion or secularity, or wealth;
- benevolence and compassion for those close to us, for distant communities and for refugees;
- equal opportunity for all;
- social justice – meaning fair outcomes for all, fair sharing of national wealth, fair sharing of the burden and benefit of taxation, fair access to services, and equality before the law;
- life-long health, including physical, mental and societal health and happiness;
- life-long accessibility of education;
- life-long opportunity for expansion of the mind and human creative capacity;
- scientific intelligence and research capacity;
- unobstructed access to public information and protection of privacy and personal information;
- information markets that are properly regulated for the purpose of promotion of truth;
- national resilience, preparedness for crises and capacity to avert preventable crises;
- protection of the natural environment and conservation of natural resources;
- the planet, its ecosystems and species diversity;
- future generations and intergenerational equity;
- freedom of speech, expression, information, peaceful assembly and association, protest, choice in life path and partner, travel, belief, religion, secularity and atheism, political communication, freedom of the press, and freedom from discrimination, unlawful or arbitrary detention, political persecution, fear and want;
- the contributions and dignity of everyone, regardless of employment status, disability and working life stage;
- the formation and ongoing support of a human-centred economy capable of providing continuous full employment and opportunities for meaningful work and life satisfaction;
- the formation and ongoing support of an environmentally sustainable economy capable of ensuring proper conservation of scarce natural resources;
- fairness and ethics in foreign and domestic trade and finance;
- decency, humanity, cooperation and integrity in our international citizenry;
- independence in national sovereignty; and
- self-determination through a voice in our own governance.

## Does the Vision for *Australia Together* reflect what Australians value and want?

**Table 1** below takes the above list of Australian values and shows which elements of the Vision for *Australia Together* align with and support each of the values. It shows how the Vision is designed to maximise our chances of building society that can live those values. Put another way, if we can make the Vision a reality then everything Australians have said they value and want will be more secure.

**How to read Table 1** – The left-hand column simply sets out the full text of the draft of Australian Values as they have been listed in *The People’s Constitution*. The right-hand column shows which elements of the Vision for *Australia Together* are aligned with and supportive of each value listed on the left.



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<b><i>If we value this ...</i></b>	<b><i>... then which elements of the Vision will help us live those values? ...</i></b>
<p>We the people of Australia are at one in this our Sovereign Will to chart a course to a future where <b>peace prevails and the common wellbeing is secured for all</b> in a manner consistent with the preeminent value we place on:</p>	<p>6 Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>10 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>14 Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival.</p> <p>15 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p> <p>17 We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the safety of all members of the nation and the stability, security and cohesion of society as a whole;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>2 We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>3 Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life.</p> <p>5 We act together as a compassionate society.</p> <p>6 Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>10 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p>

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<b><i>If we value this ...</i></b>	<b><i>... then which elements of the Vision will help us live those values? ...</i></b>	
	11 12 15 16	National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared. Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone. Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals. We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>life-long opportunity for expansion of the mind and human creative capacity;</li> </ul>	2 3 4 7 8 9 11 12 13 15 16	We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination. Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life. We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing. Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society. Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice. Vital services are fully accessible for all. National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared. Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone. As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society. Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals. We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>scientific intelligence and research capacity;</li> </ul>	4 7 8 9 11 13	We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing. Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society. Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice. Vital services are fully accessible for all. National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared. As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>unobstructed access to public information and protection of privacy and personal information;</li> </ul>	<p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>15 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>information markets that are properly regulated for the purpose of promotion of truth;</li> </ul>	<p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>15 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>national resilience, preparedness for crises and capacity to avert preventable crises;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protection of the natural environment and conservation of natural resources;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>2 We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>10 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>13 As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society.</p> <p>14 Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the planet, its ecosystems and species diversity;</li> </ul>	1 2 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	We are all safe. We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination. Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice. Vital services are fully accessible for all. Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared. National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared. Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone. As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society. Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival. Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals. We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations. We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>future generations and intergenerational equity;</li> </ul>	1 5 6 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	We are all safe. We act together as a compassionate society. Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress. Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice. Vital services are fully accessible for all. Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared. National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared. Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone. As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society. Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>freedom of speech, expression, information, peaceful assembly and association, protest, choice in life path and partner, travel, belief, religion, secularity and atheism, political communication, freedom of the press, and freedom from discrimination, unlawful or arbitrary detention, political persecution, fear and want;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>3 Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life.</p> <p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>5 We act together as a compassionate society.</p> <p>6 Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>15 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p> <p>17 We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the contributions and dignity of everyone, regardless of employment status, disability and working life stage;</li> </ul>	<p>2 We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>3 Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life.</p> <p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>5 We act together as a compassionate society.</p> <p>6 Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the formation and ongoing support of a human-centred economy capable of providing continuous full employment and opportunities for meaningful work and life satisfaction;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>3 Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life.</p> <p>4 We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>5 We act together as a compassionate society.</p> <p>6 Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>9 Vital services are fully accessible for all.</p> <p>9 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>10 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>11 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>12 As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society. Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival.</p> <p>13 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>14 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the formation and ongoing support of an environmentally sustainable economy capable of ensuring proper conservation of scarce natural resources;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>2 We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fairness and ethics in foreign and domestic trade and finance;</li> </ul>	<p>10 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>11 National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared.</p> <p>12 Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone.</p> <p>13 As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society.</p> <p>14 Stewardship of ecology is affirmed as fundamental to planetary and human survival.</p> <p>15 Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p> <p>17 We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• decency, humanity, cooperation and integrity in our international citizenry;</li> </ul>	<p>1 We are all safe.</p> <p>2 We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>5 We act together as a compassionate society.</p> <p>7 Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>8 Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>10 Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared.</p> <p>13 As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society.</p> <p>16 We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in</p>

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	17	accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations. We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>independence in national sovereignty; and</li> </ul>	1 12 15 16 17	<p>We are all safe.</p> <p>As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society.</p> <p>Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p> <p>We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>self-determination through a voice in our own governance.</li> </ul>	2 3 4 6 7 8 15 16 17	<p>We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination.</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life.</p> <p>We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress.</p> <p>Diversity is positively appreciated as the basis for a successful Australian society.</p> <p>Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens through unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice.</p> <p>Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals.</p> <p>We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations.</p> <p>We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world.</p>

## Are there any elements of the Vision for *Australia Together* which are not aligned with what Australians value and want?

No element of the Vision for *Australia Together* is at odds with any of the Australian values identified in *The People’s Constitution*. This can be confirmed simply by asking if any element of the Vision would drag Australians away from being able to realise the central objective of the Statement of Australian Values, which is that **Australians wish to be able to chart a course to a future where peace prevails and the common wellbeing is secured for all.**

**All elements of the Vision arc clearly towards not away from peace, wellbeing and security for all.**

This arises from the fact that the Vision is structured as an inclusive Vision. It is purposely designed to avoid exclusion and ensure that everyone can safely find a place in Australian society regardless of their diversity – meaning that everyone can be confident of the wellbeing and security necessary for a fulfilling life.

Further proof that the Vision is aligned with and fully supportive of what Australians value and want could be most easily seen if we were to reverse the Vision. This would immediately indicate that if Australians adopted the reverse Vision they would be setting themselves on a course that will require them to live values that are the opposite of those described in *The People’s Constitution*, none of which could result in a future where peace prevails and the common wellbeing is secured for all.

**Table 2** paints a picture of what the Vision for *Australia Together* would look like if we reversed it. **Table 3** paints a picture of what Australian values would look like if we tried to live their opposites. Both tables describe a dystopic society in their right-hand columns. ACFP has been unable to find any evidence that Australians aspire to or value a dystopic society and no evidence of a desire to reverse the Vision for *Australia Together*.

**The clear alignment between the Vision and Australian national values as described in *The People’s Constitution* positions Australians to live their values and achieve what they want for the future. A reversal of the Vision would counteract Australian values.**

Table 2 – If we reversed the Vision for *Australia Together*, could we expect to live our values and achieve what we want?

Australians may form their own conclusions as to whether they would prefer to reverse the Vision for *Australia Together*. Should they prefer to reverse the Vision there would be no prospect of living the Values described in *The People’s Constitution*.

<b>Table 2</b>	
<b>What would the Vision for <i>Australia Together</i> would look like if we reversed it?</b>	
<b><i>The Draft Vision for Australia Together</i></b>	<b><i>A Reverse Vision</i></b>
<b>We are all safe</b>	We are unsafe, either from threat of war or military invasion, invasion of privacy, increased crime rates, risk of domestic abuse, traffic accidents, bushfire, poverty, financial ruin, infectious disease, debilitating air quality, toxic water quality, workplace injury – etc.

**Table 2**

**What would the Vision for *Australia Together* would look like if we reversed it?**

<b><i>The Draft Vision for Australia Together</i></b>	<b><i>A Reverse Vision</i></b>
<b>We have achieved a lasting reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, based on our shared values of justice and self-determination</b>	We have made no place available in our Constitution or legislation for the oldest continuing civilisation on the planet. They still have no Voice. And we still carry on without having acknowledged a need to work as a unified, uplifted nation. Our human rights record and credibility plunges. We are unable to define ourselves with decency. There is no reconciliation between First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous Australians and no settlement of matters of sovereignty.
<b>Everyone is welcome to participate positively in community life</b>	We exclude people from participation. There is little or no sense of community or belonging. Volunteering is reduced. Transport and communications systems are inadequate for connecting communities.
<b>We are inspired and able to renew our physical and spiritual wellbeing</b>	Sports, creative arts and music play little role in our wellbeing. People succumb more frequently to illness, including mental illness. Life expectancy falls. Cultural heritage is forgotten. Opportunities for fulfilment, purpose and meaning in our lives are significantly reduced. The possibility of defining ourselves, culturally and as individuals, is diminished.
<b>We act together as a compassionate society</b>	Disadvantaged people suffer and grow in numbers. A survival of the fittest, dog-eat-dog culture prevails. People cease to help each other in crises. Refugees from climate change, war, torture and economic disasters are turned away and no reciprocal kindness is shown by other nations to Australia in our own disasters.
<b>Equality is valued as enriching human community, cultural harmony and social progress</b>	Inequality is continually growing and the economy is contracting due to the hollowing out of the middle class. Poverty is growing. Social and human capital are depleted. Business plays a socially irresponsible role instead of cooperating with workers as partners.
<b>Diversity is positively appreciated as a basis for a successful Australian society</b>	Diversity is a source of division. Social cohesion is fractured. Religion divides, not unites, communities. Contributions of all cultures, genders, faiths, sexual orientations are lost and both the financial and creative economies suffer.
<b>Everyone can realise their full potential in life, as individuals, members of a family and citizens though unlimited opportunities in education and employment of choice</b>	Optimism is lost. Self-actualisation and self-determination are impossible. Suicide and violence are endemic through a preponderance of shame. People are unable to distinguish truth from fake news.
<b>Vital services are fully accessible for all</b>	Human dignity is lost for the aged, in family services, justice, health and employment.
<b>Scarce resources are conserved and fairly shared</b>	Resource consumption is entirely excessive and national assets are not shared.
<b>National wealth is fairly raised and fairly shared</b>	Meanness prevails and the economy contracts. The wealthiest 20% of households hold over 80% of all household wealth and the lowest 20% still control less than 1 per cent of all household wealth. The neoliberal project has been completed and is irreversible. Australians own few if any of the government services

<b>Table 2</b> <b>What would the Vision for <i>Australia Together</i> would look like if we reversed it?</b>	
<b><i>The Draft Vision for Australia Together</i></b>	<b><i>A Reverse Vision</i></b>
	and assets they owned in 2020. If they can afford it, they pay a small number of excessively rich private interests (monopolies and oligopolies) for their education, health and other vital services. Redistribution of national income via a fair and equitable welfare system has ceased.
<b>Our economy is sustainable and supports rewarding opportunities and continuous improvements in living standards, wellbeing and security for everyone</b>	The economy sustains only the rich and poverty is widespread. Human capital is depleted. Our natural assets are depleted or lost. A once burgeoning eco-tourism sector is devastated. Other nations fail to invest in Australia due to the risk of investing in a country that fails to achieve sustainability. Living standards fall continuously for the majority of Australians.
<b>As a nation we have the courage to take a leading place in achieving the environmental aims of a global society</b>	Our international reputation for environmental and humane responsibility is lost. Our climate has heated by more than 4° Celsius due to our obstructive and destructive international participation. Vast areas of Australia are uninhabitable for humans. Ecosystems have collapsed and with them our economy.
<b>Democracy is assured by a well informed and engaged community of political equals</b>	Democracy is weak or overtaken by autocracy. People are too frightened to participate, let alone protest. Human rights are extinguished.
<b>We can confidently trust our parliaments, governments, and courts to act fairly and justly in accordance with the rights and interests of the public and future generations</b>	Authoritarianism is entrenched and the national interest is sacrificed to a rich and powerful elite. We can design no way out of our problems that will be heard. It is impossible to identify either truth or falsity.
<b>We take pride in Australia as a responsible international citizen, active in building a safe, peaceful and united world</b>	We are an international pariah. Or worse – the United Nations has collapsed and military alliances vanquish diplomacy and the rule of international law. International collaborative research has ceased. We have become a poor nation, more vulnerable than ever to invasion.

Table 3 – If we reversed the Statement of Australian Values, could we expect to make the Vision for *Australia Together* a reality?

The right-hand column in **Table 3** paints a picture of the character of Australian society in the future should we choose to reverse the Australian Values described in *The People’s Constitution*, which are set out in the left-hand column.

Australians may form their own conclusions as to whether they would prefer to reverse the Values described in *The People’s Constitution*. Should they prefer to reverse the Values there would be no prospect of achieving the Vision for *Australia Together*.



<b>Table 3</b>	
<b>Imagining a different value set – What sort of society would we build?</b>	
<b>Probable preferred Australian national values in <i>The People’s Constitution</i></b>	<b>Values in reverse</b>
<i>The focus is towards ...</i>	<i>The focus would be towards ...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peace.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• War.</li> <li>• Militarism in the civil space.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honesty, integrity and ethics in all relationships, in governance and in corporate responsibility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unethical behaviour – particularly damaging in lawmaking.</li> <li>• Enabling corporate theft, corruption in governance (private and public), entrenchment of the secret state and collapse of trust in parliaments, executive governments and democracy itself.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety, security and stability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destabilisation and exposure to risk, particularly climate and economic risk.</li> <li>• Exposure to political instability.</li> <li>• Exposure to domestic, civil and international violence.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open democracy where laws and policies serve the public interest.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secrecy and inaccessibility to vital information.</li> <li>• Laws which serve sectional interests.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal human rights.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autocracy, tyranny or at the very least reduced participation in democracy.</li> <li>• Denial of freedoms.</li> <li>• Denial of human dignity.</li> <li>• Denial by governments of their obligation to protect human rights.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social harmony and appreciation of diversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A restoration of white Australia and economic decline (due to a failure to capitalise fully on diversity).</li> <li>• Civil unrest driven by narrow and divisive ideologies.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Nations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including their culture, heritage, and wellbeing;</li> <li>○ reconciliation with First Nations, truth telling, treaty and recognition of the centrality of their role in both our nationhood and our survival on this continent;</li> <li>○ the sovereignty of First Nations, their ancestral tie to the land, and the coexistence of that sovereignty with that of all Australians; and</li> <li>○ the right of First Nations to a Voice in the Constitution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A restoration of white Australia (including cultural and physical decimation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples).</li> <li>• Continued immaturity in the national character, continued denial of the legal and ethical faults in the nation’s founding.</li> <li>• Continued injustice for the theft of a continent and stolen generations.</li> <li>• Continued denial of the possibility of a coexistence of sovereignties.</li> <li>• A refusal of reconciliation and recognition.</li> <li>• A denial of the right of Indigenous Australians to a Voice in the Constitution.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equality and egalitarianism (for genders, ages, races, and those of diverse sexual orientation, disability, national and ethnic origin, religious persuasion, and wealth).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A restoration of stratified authoritarianism, particularly white male dominated and religious patriarchy.</li> <li>• Wealth for the few, not for the many.</li> <li>• Rights for some, not for all.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellbeing for all.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellbeing for some or none.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benevolence and compassion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cruelty.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal opportunity for all.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discrimination.</li> <li>• Increasing inequality.</li> </ul>

**Table 3****Imagining a different value set – What sort of society would we build?**

<b>Probable preferred Australian national values in <i>The People's Constitution</i></b>	<b>Values in reverse</b>
<i>The focus is towards ...</i>	<i>The focus would be towards ...</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fair go for some, not all.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social justice (meaning fair outcomes for all, fair sharing of national wealth, fair sharing of the burden and benefit of taxation, fair access to services, and equality before the law).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inequality in distribution of burden and benefits.</li> <li>• Inequality before the law.</li> <li>• Denial of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freedom (particularly freedom of speech, expression, information, peaceful assembly and association, protest, choice in life path and partner, travel, belief, religion, secularity and atheism, political communication, freedom of the press, and freedom from discrimination, unlawful or arbitrary detention, political persecution, fear and want).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forbidding self-expression, access to information, association and assembly, protest, movement (travel), positive contributions to a better future, a choice on what to read, study and where to work, a choice on who we love and a choice in what we believe.</li> <li>• Embedding discrimination.</li> <li>• Unjust detention and trial in secret (as opposed to open court).</li> <li>• Engendering fear.</li> <li>• Withholding the necessities of life, including food, shelter and connection.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion of the mind and human creative capacity (that is, education valued for its own sake and information access that is unobstructed).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insularity, narrowness of thought, suppression of creativity, inhumanity, and susceptibility to fake news.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific intelligence and research capacity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denial of facts, susceptibility to misinformation, economic contraction, shorter life expectancy, poorer health and unchecked climate change.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilience (meaning preparedness for crises and an ability to overcome challenges and setbacks without social breakdown or an increase in inequality).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survival of the fittest.</li> <li>• Development of a dog-eat-dog value set.</li> <li>• Rejection of long term planning in favour of short term interest.</li> <li>• Complacency and reliance on luck.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of the natural environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unsustainable resource exploitation and attendant economic collapse.</li> <li>• Loss of connection to the land.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The planet, its ecosystems and species diversity (for their own sake, not just for human benefit but in recognition of the essential inter-dependency of all living things).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate disaster, potential species annihilation (including human and civilisation extinction).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future generations and intergenerational equity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destruction of the future of our children.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A human-centred and environmentally sustainable economy – one that works for, rather than debases, people, and one that conserves scarce natural and human resources and maximises the efficiency of labour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abdication of the responsibility to establish a sustainable economy.</li> <li>• Preferring an economic structure that is inherently incapable of delivering our preferred quality of life and necessary wellbeing (that is preferring a neoliberal economic strategy that has been proven to be unsustainable, has diverted wealth away from the poorest towards the rich and has unnecessarily imposed involuntary unemployment and austerity).</li> </ul>

<b>Table 3</b>	
<b>Imagining a different value set – What sort of society would we build?</b>	
<b>Probable preferred Australian national values in <i>The People’s Constitution</i></b>	<b>Values in reverse</b>
<i>The focus is towards ...</i>	<i>The focus would be towards ...</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An economy that debases people, squanders and destroys scarce natural and human resources and minimises the efficiency of labour.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meaningful and fulfilling work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drudgery – a life unfulfilled.</li> <li>Declining productivity.</li> <li>Abdication of the responsibility to ensure full employment.</li> <li>Abdication of responsibility for the economic restructuring that will be required as technology and artificial intelligence replace human labour.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The contributions and dignity of everyone (regardless of employment status, disability and working life stage).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devaluation of unpaid working-age contributions (such as households caring for children, the aged and the disabled).</li> <li>Devaluation of the unemployed and other welfare sector funded citizens (such as aged pensioners). Disregard of the importance of demand from this sector as a source of stimulus for a thriving and sustainable economy.</li> <li>Devaluation of certain essential occupations, including nursing, aged care, childcare, cleaning and teaching.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fairness and ethics in foreign and domestic trade and finance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global economic inequality (upon which would follow global economic decline).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decency, humanity, cooperation and integrity in our international citizenry.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mass population displacement (instead of growth in the sustainability of developing nations).</li> <li>Inhumanity in treatment of refugees.</li> <li>Cessation of cooperative research.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independence in national sovereignty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dependence on unreliable alliances, conscription to the imperial aims of global powers, accession to other nations’ wars, and exposure of the home front to inadequate defence.</li> <li>Isolating Australia from connection with the Asian region.</li> <li>Surrender of sovereignty.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-determination through a voice in our own governance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autocracy, denying the participation of Australians in their own democracy.</li> <li>Reinstatement of autocratic governance characteristic of the Hobbesian modern state.</li> <li>Loss of control by the people over their future.</li> <li>Driving people to despair and either self-destruction or aggression (or both).</li> </ul>

**Further questions may be forwarded to ACFP at [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au)**  
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